Global Manufacturing LPS Bulletin - Safety

Load falls and hits worker





IPS Control: 1550994

Location:

Richmond Refinery Ca, USA

Contact Information:

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Incident re-enactment – showing equipment position



Incident re-enactment – showing rigging.



After Incident - shackle pin in excavation

Everyone has the right to go home safely – Every Day

Incident Description:

While removing wooden concrete forms from an excavation, a load of wooden forms fell approximately 8 to 10 feet and struck a contractor employee. The worker suffered multiple injuries and was subsequently transported to hospital by helicopter for further medical evaluation and treatment.

Investigation Findings:

- 1) Necessary personnel not adequately trained in rigging techniques and not adequately supervised while rigging.
- Incorrect rigging techniques were used to lift this load.
 - Choking technique not used
 - Shackle pin not fully installed and checked for seating
- 3) Injured worker was under/near the load as it was being lifted.
- 4) There is a significant increase in the use of Telehandler (also known as gradalls or rough terrain forklifts) for rigging. There is high potential for such equipment to be used for work outside of the manufacture's specifications and without trained support personnel.

Lessons Learned:

- 1) Personnel performing rigging work must have appropriate training to perform the task.
- Pre-job briefings and the JHA/JSA must go into sufficient detail to assess risks, analyze appropriate steps to reduce those risks and then take the necessary steps to ensure work can be carried out safely.
- The industry is seeing increased use of telehandlers as a substitute for cranes

Recommendations:

- 1) Contractors should verify that personnel performing rigging work are appropriately trained and supervised.
- 2) Pre-job briefings and JHA forms should specifically address potential 'line of fire' concerns.
- Facilities should review their current Lifting & Rigging policies and practices and modify as necessary to address telehandlers and similar equipment.

Tenets of Operations Violated:

- 1) Tenet 1 Always operate within design or operational limits
- 2) Tenet 4 Always follow safe work practices and procedures
- 3) Tenet 10 Always involve the right people in decisions that affect procedures and equipment